



Idiom Podium

6

Level 3

Exercise 1

Complete the sentences with the words in the boxes. Some of the sentences have more than one answer.

head

mind

brain

thought

brains

1. Do you have the memory of an elephant or a _____ like a sieve?
2. You are mad. Totally, completely and utterly off your _____.
3. He was behaving as if he was out of his _____.
4. In the previous lessons, I already have given you plenty of food for _____.
5. Off the top of your _____, what do you know about Vitamin C?
6. Rack your _____ and tell me everything you know about him.

12

Exercise 2

Decide if the following sentences are true (✓) or false (✗).

1. If something crosses your mind, you forget about it.
2. If something rings a bell, it reminds you of something.
3. If you have a gut reaction to something, you have spent a long time thinking about it.
4. If you say something off the top of your head, you are very strange and dangerous.
5. If something is food for thought, it makes you think.
6. If you are racking your brain, you aren't thinking very hard.

12



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Exercise 3

Choose the best answer to complete the sentences.

1. Do you know anyone called Frascati? – Well the name _____.
a) racks my brains b) rings a bell c) is miles away
2. Dr Barth, what is the greatest single thought that ever _____?
a) rang a bell b) racked your brains c) crossed your mind
3. You don't know anyone else who might be free? – Not _____, no.
a) on the tip of my tongue b) crossing my mind c) off the top of my head
4. I'm just trying to remember his name; it's _____.
a) racking my brains b) on the tip of my tongue c) crossing my mind
5. Did you ask me a question? I'm sorry, I was _____.
a) miles away b) out of my mind c) ringing a bell
6. Someone mentioned this point recently and I'm _____ to think who it was.
a) out of my mind b) racking my brains c) bearing it in mind

Exercise 4

Correct the idioms in these sentences.

12

1. Business has been very bad and the management seem to have **racked the plot**.
2. You can withdraw money at other banks but **bear in thought** that they might charge a handling fee.
3. You are **off your mind** if you think I'll help you commit a crime!
4. **Off the top of his mind**, he couldn't think of an excuse she would believe.
5. The after-dinner speaker provided us with plenty of **thought food**.
6. Her name was **on the top of my tongue**, but I just couldn't get it.
7. Personally, I trust my **gut action** to tell me when I'm right.
8. It **crossed my head** that I hadn't heard the children for a while.

16

52



The Answer

Exercise 1

1. **brain**
2. **head**
3. **mind**
4. **thought**
5. **head**
6. **brains**

Exercise 2

1. **false**
2. **true**
3. **false**
4. **false**
5. **true**
6. **false**

Exercise 3

1. **rings a bell**
2. **crossed your mind**
3. **off the top of my head**
4. **on the tip of my tongue**
5. **miles away**
6. **racking my brains**

Exercise 4

1. **lost** the polt
2. bear in **mind**
3. **out of** your mind
4. Off the top of his **head**
5. **food for thought**
6. on the **tip** of my tongue
7. gut **reaction**
8. **crossed** my **mind**